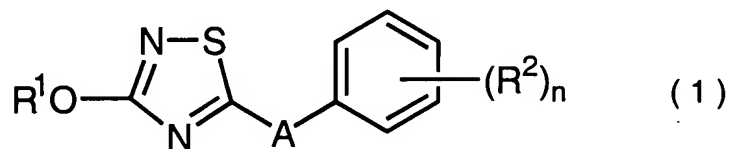


Amendments to and listing of the Claims:

Please amend claims 3 and 4 and add new claims 10 and 11 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound represented by the formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a C3-C7 alkynyl group optionally substituted with one or more halogen atom(s), R² represents a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C1-C4 haloalkyl group, a C1-C4 alkoxy group, a C1-C4 haloalkoxy group, a C1-C4 alkylthio group, a cyano group or a nitro group, n represents an integer of 0 to 5, provided that, when n represents an integer of 2 or more, respective R²s may be the same or different,

A represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, a single bond, a CR³R⁴ group or a NR⁵ group, R³ and R⁴ represent each independently a hydrogen atom or a C1-C4 alkyl group, and R⁵ represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C7 alkyl group, a C1-C3 haloalkyl group, a C2-C4(alkoxyalkyl) group, a C2-C4(haloalkoxyalkyl) group, a C3-C6 alkenyl group, a C3-C6 haloalkenyl group, a C3-C7 alkynyl group, a C3-C7 haloalkynyl group or a cyanomethyl group.

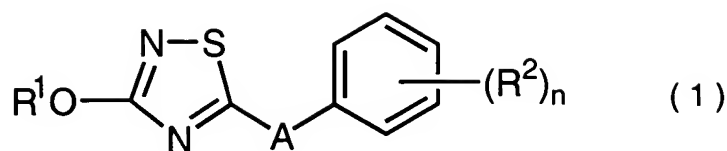
2. (Original) The 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound according to claim 1, wherein A in the formula (1) is a single bond.

3. (Currently Amended) The 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound according to claim 1 [~~or 2~~], wherein R¹ in the formula (1) is a 2-propynyl group, a 2-butynyl group or 2-pentynyl group.

4. (Currently Amended) The 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound according to claim 1 [~~or 2~~], wherein R¹ in the formula (1) is a 2-butynyl group or a 2-pentynyl group.

5. (Original) A composition for controlling a harmful arthropod which comprises an effective amount of the 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound according to claim 1.

6. (Original) A method for controlling a harmful arthropod which comprises applying, to harmful arthropods or a place where harmful arthropods inhabit, a 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound represented by the formula (1):



wherein R¹ represents a C3-C7 alkynyl group optionally substituted with one or more halogen atom(s), R² represents a halogen atom, a C1-C4 alkyl group, a C1-C4 haloalkyl group, a C1-C4 alkoxy group, a C1-C4 haloalkoxy group, a C1-C4 alkylthio group, a cyano group or a nitro group, n represents an integer of 0 to 5, provided that, when n represents an integer of 2 or more, respective R²s may be the same or different,

A represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom, a single bond, a CR³R⁴ group or a NR⁵ group, R³ and R⁴ represent each independently a hydrogen atom or C1-C4 alkyl group, and R⁵ represents a hydrogen atom, a C1-C7 alkyl group, a C1-C3 haloalkyl group, a C2-C4(alkoxyalkyl) group, a C2-C4(haloalkoxyalkyl) group, a C3-C6 alkenyl group, a C3-C6 haloalkenyl group, a C3-C7 alkynyl group, a C3-C7 haloalkynyl group or a cyanomethyl group.

7. (Original) The controlling method according to claim 6, wherein the harmful arthropod is a Hemiptera insect pest, a Lepidoptera insect pest, a Coleoptera insect pest or a Thysanoptera insect pest.

8. (Original) The controlling method according to claim 6, wherein the harmful arthropod is a Hemiptera insect pest or a Thysanoptera insect pest.

9. (Original) Use of the 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound according to claim 1 as an active ingredient of a composition for controlling a harmful arthropod.

10. (New) The 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound according to claim 2, wherein R¹ in the formula (1) is a 2-propynyl group, a 2-butynyl group or 2-pentynyl group.

11. (New) The 1,2,4-thiadiazole compound according to claim 2, wherein R¹ in the formula (1) is a 2-butynyl group or a 2-pentynyl group.